

Abstract of the Disclosure

Pharmaceutically acceptable hydrogel polymers of natural, recombinant or  
5 synthetic origin, or hybrids thereof, are introduced in a dry, less hydrated, or substantially  
deswollen state and rehydrate in a physiological environment to undergo a volumetric expansion  
and to affect sealing, plugging, or augmentation of tissue, defects in tissue, or of organs. The  
hydrogel polymers may deliver therapeutic entities by controlled release at the site. Methods to  
form useful devices from such polymers, and to implant the devices are provided.

10